

Community-Based Job Training Grants

Montgomery County Community College



Grantee: Montgomery County Community College

Industry Focus: Automotive Service Technology

Key Partners: Montgomery County Workforce Investment Board (MCWIB), which oversees the Montgomery County PACareerLink (One-Stop) Centers with the Bureau of Workforce Development; Pottstown School District (PSD); Pottsgrove School District (PGSD); Upper Meriomen School District (UPSD); Spring-Ford School District; (SFSD); Pennsylvania College of Technology (Penn College); and the Automobile Dealers' Association of Greater Philadelphia (ADAGP)

Grant Amount: \$1,371,264

Leveraged Amount: \$1,888,983

Location of Grant Activities: Pennsylvania

Challenge: According to the Montgomery County WIB, there are yearly openings for Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics. The Berks, Bucks and Chester County Workforce Investment Boards also report a significant need totaling 215 new automotive service workers annually. Because of this growing demand for highly trained workers in the automotive service industry, the Pennsylvania Department of Labor has included this industry field on its current Targeted Industry List for Montgomery County. The need for well-prepared Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics is not being met within this multi-county region.

Addressing the Challenge: Montgomery County Community College and partners will expand the College's capacity by enlarging the scope of its new Automotive Technology facility and by developing a new program. The College and its partners will: 1) provide industry-based, comprehensive education and training to automotive service technician and mechanic students; 2) provide industry-based professional development training; 3) provide a career and education ladder for all participants, from high school through the baccalaureate degree; 4) continuously improve programs and courses through additional certifications; and 5) further expand capacity for training by providing a replicable model.

Projected Outcomes:

- Train 255 students as Certified Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics
- 70% of those students will be incumbent workers
- Enhance the training offered through the program by providing a model for dual college-high school credit automotive courses within a high school setting, which the College will work to duplicate with other comprehensive high schools and career and technical center partners within Montgomery and nearby counties.

